

Applicant(s): David Schuttler et al.
U.S.S.N.: 10/763,811

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed August 9, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. To further the prosecution of the application, claims 1-3 have been amended, claims 16-20 have been cancelled and claims 20 and 21 have been added to the application. Claims 1 to 15, 21 and 22 are pending in the application with claims 1, 7, 8, and 15 being in independent form. The claims as presented are believed to be in allowable condition.

Election/Restriction

In the Office Action, claims 16-20 have been withdrawn from consideration as being elected to a non-elected invention. Without acceding to the correctness of this election/restriction, and without prejudice to pursue these claims in one or more divisional or continuation applications, Applicants have cancelled claims 16-20.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7 and 15 have been indicated as allowable.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 12-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Japan 2000 346940 (JP '940).

Claims 2-3, 9 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP '940 in view of Bernat et al. or Europe 0340952 (EP '952).

Claim 1 has been amended herein merely to clarify the language of the claim and not for reasons related to patentability. Claim 1 as amended is a terminal block for use in an uninterruptible power supply comprising a first portion comprising a plurality of stalls, each of the plurality of stalls having an aperture, and a plurality of sockets, with at least one socket positioned in each aperture, the at least one socket arranged to accept a wire from internal portions of the uninterruptible power supply. The terminal block further includes a second portion removably connectable to the first portion, the second portion comprising: a plurality of

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stalls, a plurality of electrical ports, an electrical port positioned in each of the plurality of stalls; and at least one connector pin positioned within one of the plurality of stalls to connect to one socket through one aperture.

In contrast with claim 1, the relay terminal block of JP '940 does not include a first portion comprising a plurality of stalls, *each of the plurality of stalls having an aperture*. Further, the Office Action does not indicate what elements of the relay terminal block of JP '940 correspond to the apertures of claim 1. Still further, since the relay terminal block of JP '940 does not include the apertures of claim 1, it also does not include at least one connector pin positioned within one of the plurality of stalls to connect to one socket *through one aperture*, as recited in claim 1. Based on the foregoing, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over JP '940 and the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for at least the same reasons. Further, the Office Action has not specifically addressed the limitations contained in claims 4-6. If the rejection of any of claims 4-6 is to be maintained, Applicants respectfully request that the limitations of claims 4-6 be addressed.

Independent claim 8 is directed to a terminal block for use in making electrical connections in an uninterruptible power supply. The terminal block includes a first portion having a plurality of stalls, each of the plurality of stalls including an aperture to accept a wire from an internal portion of the uninterruptible power supply, and a second portion having a plurality of stalls, each of the plurality of stalls including an electrical port for accepting electrical connections from at least one device. The terminal block further includes connecting means for connecting the first portion to the second portion, the connecting means including at least one connector inserted into a first side of the aperture and at least one socket inserted into a second side of the aperture.

The rejection of claim 8 should be withdrawn for reasons similar to claim 1 discussed above. More specifically, the relay terminal block of JP '940 does not include a plurality of stalls including an *aperture*. Further, the relay terminal block does not include connecting means including at least one connector inserted into a first side of the *aperture* and at least one socket inserted into a second side of the *aperture*.

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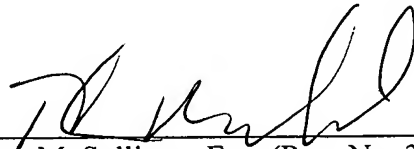
Claims 9-14 depend from claim 8 and are patentable for at least the same reasons. Further, the Office Action has not specifically addressed the limitations contained in claims 9-14. If the rejection of any of claims 9-14 is to be maintained, Applicants respectfully request that the limitations of claims 9-14 be addressed.

Claims 21 and 22 have been added to the application. These claims respectively depend from claims 1 and 8 and are patentable for at least the same reasons.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, the application is believed to be in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the application, he is invited to contact the Applicant's Attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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